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DIARY NOTES

ADD/S

23 March 1966

1. In mentioning the candidates that we must put forward by 15 April for the nine-month postgraduate work in planning, programming, and budgeting systems at the Morning Meeting, Mr. Helms was interested, and a considerable discussion ensued. No one seemed quite sure as to how mathematical models and this kind of system analysis can be applied to the work of the Clandestine Services. In fact, Des FitzGerald asked that he be excused from nominating one of his good people. Mr. Helms said that he felt that we should send only young men who would have a chance of being successful in the intensive program, especially since it is heavily weighted toward academic approaches. In order to see if this was all right, he asked that I get together with John Bross and call [REDACTED] who is supposed to be the father of the system. We did this, and [REDACTED] agreed that neither age nor grade was a critical factor and that we should select people who would be interested, who would be involved in the work for a long time to come, and who would get the most out of the postgraduate work.

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2. [REDACTED] called in the morning to say that his agent had advised him that the Fairfax County Board had finally and formally turned down the Travers Tract appeal. Travers' lawyer is quoted as saying that he wished that he had never started the proceedings. [REDACTED] proposes that we look carefully at whether or not we want to buy this since one-acre subdivision might pose no problem to us. At that point, I agreed to discuss it with you and to proceed slowly. Later in the afternoon, however, Mr. Cummins, husband of one of the inheritors, called to report the same information and to say that they were now ready for the GSA appraisers to go in. As you know, an appraisal has already been made from the road without going on the tract. I called Jake Blake and told him to get GSA to make another appraisal or at least to antedate the one they have done, and to get in touch with Cummins in ten days to two weeks.

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3. Having built a fire under Finance, they found that they could get the Notices on the new tax bill out this week instead of next. In fact, they have now been passed to DD/P for authentication [REDACTED] and to the printers for publication of the Headquarters Notice.

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4. Mr. Helms was amused and distressed at the Frances Knight article and expressed his wonderment that the State Department could let themselves get in such a box. He asked everyone to be sure that our policy of not getting involved in the private affairs of private U.S. citizens be continued and reinforced.

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